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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Serpentes, Dipsadidae, *Atractus occipitoalbus*: Second record and Distribution Extension in Bolivia

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ABSTRACT: One adult female of *Atractus occipitoalbus* (Jan, 1862) was collected in a mature secondary forest in Valle de Sacta, Province Chapare, Department of Cochabamba, Bolivia. This new record confirms the presence of the species in Bolivia, and provides a new locality in the country.

The genus *Atractus* (Wagler, 1828) is composed of small fossorial snakes. Widely distributed in South America (Passos *et al*. 2005), this genus includes more than 130 species (Passos *et al.* 2009a), of which eleven have been recorded from Bolivia (Aguayo 2009). *Atractus occipitoalbus* is a small dipsadine snake with a creamish band in the occipital region and 15/15/15 dorsal scale rows (Duellman 1978; Passos *et al*. 2009b). The only known locality for this species in Bolivia is Tumi Chucua, department of Beni, and was recorded by Fugler (1986). However, until now no individual was deposited in a Bolivian collection.

A female of *Atractus occipitoalbus* (Figures 1 and 2) was collected by the author in April 2010 in Valle de Sacta (17°06'48.6"S, 64°45'52.0"W, 223 m above sea level), Province Chapare, Department of Cochabamba, Bolivia. It was found on the ground under the trunk of a tree, at night (23:47 h) in an old secondary forest, near the campus of the Estación Piscícola Pirahiba del Valle del Sacta. The specimen was deposited in the herpetological collection of the Museo de Historia Natural Alcide d'Orbigny (MHNC-R 543), Cochabamba, Bolivia.

This is the second record of this species from Bolivia, 25 years since it was first recorded from Tumi Chucua, province Vaca Diez, department of Beni. This record extends the known distribution of the species of about 679 km south of Tumi Chucua to the department of Cochabamba and is the southernmost record for *Atractus occipitoalbus* in South America (Figure 3). The species is distributed east of the Andes from Colombia to Peru and Bolivia (Passos *et al*. 2009b).

The specimen presents the following characters: 15/15/15 dorsal scale rows; supralabials 6/6, 3-4 contacting orbit; infralabials 7/7, first four in contact with the chinshields; one pair of chinshields; gulars 3/3; postoculars 2; temporals 1+2/1+2; no preventrals; ventrals 143; subcaudals 26/26+1; anal plate undivided; 9/9 maxillary teeth; dorsal color pattern uniform dark brown with a creamish yellow occipital band; venter predominantly black with anterior margins of each scale cream (Figure 2); small size, 186 mm SVL; tail short, 21 mm, 11.3 % of total length.

FIGURE 1. *Atractus occipitoalbus*, (MHNC-R 543, alive), from the locality of Valle del Sacta, Cochabamba, Bolivia. Photograph by A. Ferrufino.

FIGURE 2. *Atractus occipitoalbus*, (MHNC-R 543, preserved), view of the ventral coloration pattern.

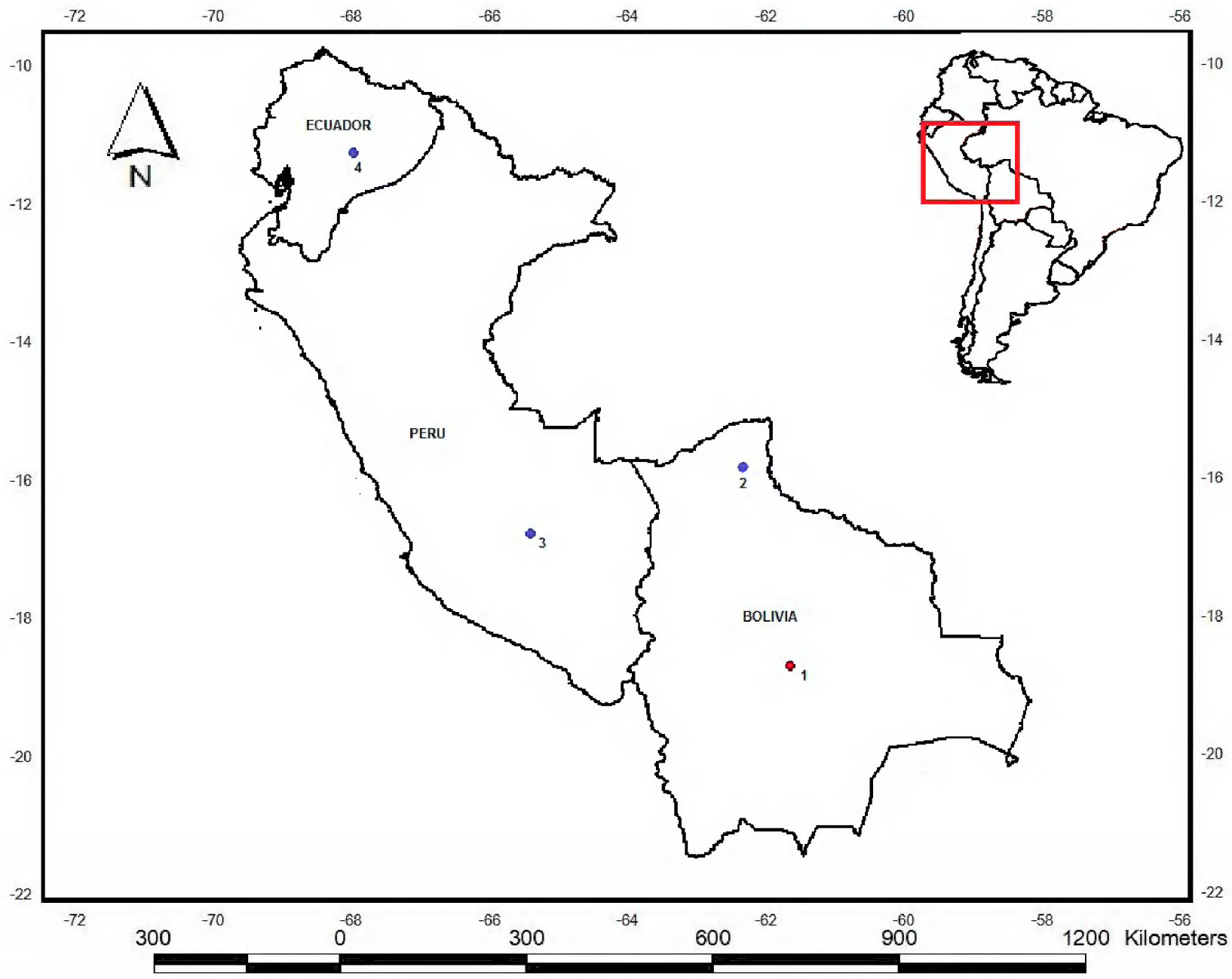

Figure 3. Points of record of *Atractus occipitoalbus* in South America: (1) (red dot) shows the new record for *A. occipitoalbus* in Bolivia (Valle del Sacta, Cochabamba), (2) Tumi Chucua, Beni, Bolivia (Fugler 1986), (3) Wiñay huayna, Machupichu, Peru (Franco Navia et al. 1999) and (4) Jawa Jee Nature Reserve, Ecuador (McAllister *et al.* 2010). Map by P. Mendoza.

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